

Code	700025
Subject	Michelle deBock
Date	5/25/2010
Interviewer	Joe Reed
Abstract	Michelle deBock is a Special Education teacher at Waterlake Elementary School in the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood. She grew up in Independence but currently lives in the Detroit Shoreway area. Michelle discusses her hopes for utilizing the garden as part of her, and other teacher's, curriculum for the students of Waterlake. She describes how the Detroit Shoreway area has recently been revitalized by the community.
Special Notes minutes:	0:37:37
	0 Intro, born in Parma but moved when she was 5 and then lived in Independence and grew up there.
	1 Currently living in Detroit Shoreway area near the garden lot. School teacher, discusses how the lot was formerly occupied my students at Waterlake School.
	2 Describes the surrounding neighborhood and vacant and boarded up houses. In the past three to four years the neighborhood has "exploded" and is flourishing.
	3 Talks about how nice it is to work and live in the same community. People in the community are very involved and seem to be interested in going green.
	4 Discusses writing the grant for the project. She was an art teacher and by necessity became familiar with grant writing.
	5 Discusses the importance of the grant. Talks about the garden location and proximity to the school.
	6 The school is urban and doesn't have access to nature, the garden is a learning garden for the students and the school.
	7 Raised beds gardens will have different themes and assigned to different grades. Describes the difference between a community garden and what this type of garden will be.
	8 The is garden project is not a market garden since the produce will not be sold for a profit.
	9 Describes the goals of the garden to give children growing up in an urban environments the opportunity to see where food comes from.
	10 Talks about the impact of the garden on the students and the community at large. Hope the garden can be an outside classroom.
	11 Students that have participated so far are very positive about the garden.
	12 Hoping that the garden will show the students the potential of their surroundings and gain respect for the neighborhood.
	13 Talks about the playground equipment being ruined and fears of potential vandalism of the garden and the desire for a fence.
	14 Discusses attending workshops and the helpfulness of the information provided.
	15 Talks about community involvement prior with community art shows.
	16 Hear about the grant from Lilah with Neighborhood Progress, Inc.
	17 Discusses the difficult task of waiting and wishing she had known that it was going to take this long, but NPI could never had predicted the wait.
	18 Talks about the possibility of people losing interest the longer the wait to start the garden. Discusses the layout of the garden.
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	20 Hopes to install art in the garden including a mosaic walkway.
	21 Teaches Special Ed students and will use the garden as the science and math curriculum for the students.
	22 Other teachers have shown interest in using the garden as part of their curriculum.
	23 Talks about the difference between with working with kids vs. adults.
	24 Discusses a need for a way to connect people and information as a way of improving Re-Imagining Cleveland.
	25 Talks about attempts to reach out to the community especially during the summer when school is out.
	26 Discusses the growth of the community and the positivity from the people that live there.
	27 People want the community to look good and do their part to keep it that way.
	28 Talks about adding to the garden and her hopes that students will return to the garden even after they are finished with school
	29 Talks about concerns about the garden.
	30 Discusses where she envisions the garden five years in the future, hopes to take over the neighboring lot.
	31 The vacant lots were once primarily houses.
	32 Talks about the limited expereinces students from urban schools have.
	33 The children don't necessarily understand the impact the project could have on the community.
	34 Talks about parents and the other teachers excited about the garden.
	35 People are getting antsy about the delay in putting the garden in. Talks about the lot not having lead contamination but using the raised beds to make it easier for little kids.
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